



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Family Day - A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children**

**WHEREAS**, the use of illegal and prescription drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute a threat to the well-being of America's children; and

**WHEREAS**, 17 years of surveys conducted by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University have consistently found that the more often children and teenagers eat dinner with their families the less likely they are to smoke, drink and use illegal drugs; and

**WHEREAS**, frequent family dining is associated with lower rates of teen smoking, drinking, and illegal drug use and prescription drug abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, the correlation between frequent family dinners and reduced risk for teenage substance abuse is well documented; and

**WHEREAS**, parents who are engaged in their children's lives – through such activities as frequent family dinners – are less likely to have children who abuse substances; and

**WHEREAS**, family dinners have long constituted a substantial pillar of family life in America; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2012 as Family Day – A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children in the State of Rhode Island and call on all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this day.



A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great  
seal of the State of Rhode Island  
and Providence Plantations,  
this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor